& competitiveness of Khadi Industries and Artisans' to assist 200 khadi institutions to make khadi industry competitive with more market driven and profitable production by replacement of obsolete and old machinery and equipment and 'Strengthening of Infrastructure of existing Weak Khadi Institutions and Assistance for Marketing Infrastructure' which envisages renovation of selected 30 khadi sales outlets and providing assistance for strengthening of infrastructure of existing 100 weak selected khadi institutions.

In addition, the Government through KVIC implements Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) scheme for providing bank loans to khadi and polyvastra units at subsidized rates of interest, Janashree Bima Yojana (JBY) to provide insurance to khadi artisans and weavers, Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for development of clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors, Research & Development and other support services, *viz.*, marketing, export promotion, exhibitions at district, State, zonal & national level, design facility, brand building, etc.

Promotion of MSMEs by public sector undertakings

3346. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

SHRI SREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether guidelines have been given to public sector undertakings to promote small industries and items are also prescribed;

(b) whether any systematic network or offices have been started in different States to receive these orders; and

(c) the amount of orders received from large public sector undertakings of Chhattisgarh, along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) To promote Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), the Government guidelines provides for extending various facilities / benefits like issue of tender sets free of cost, exemption from payment of earnest money, etc., by the Government agencies (including public sector undertakings) to MSEs registered with National Small Industries Corporation under its Single Point Registration Scheme. In addition, 358 items are reserved for exclusive purchase from MSEs by the Government agencies. Since orders are placed directly by public sector undertakings for procurement from MSEs, no network /offices exist for receiving these orders. Further, the amount of orders received, State-wise, by the MSEs from public sector undertakings is not maintained centrally.

Credit rating agencies

3347. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there are more than 16000 applications pending with credit rating agencies like CRISIL, CARE, FITCH and Dunand Bradstreet till September, 2009; and

(b) if so, the steps, Government is taking to clear this waitlist urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No Sir, under "Performance and Credit Rating Scheme" of the Ministry, there were only 1374 applications pending with different rating agencies, as on 30th September, 2009.

(b) The rating agencies are required to complete the exercise of evaluation and award of rating within one month from the date of receipt of all information from the applicant micro & small enterprises.

Further, the Government subsidy (75% of the rating fee, subject to maximum of Rs. 40,000/-) under the scheme is released to the Rating agency only after award of rating and submission of the rating report.

Setting up of a task force to promote MSMEs

3348. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a high level task force for micro, small and medium enterprises as they are demanding adequate financing and other incentives to tide over economic slowdown;

(b) whether to imbattle financial concerns, MSMEs representatives have met PM divulging details;

(c) if so, whether after meeting, PM has announced for setting up a task force to look into the problems and demands of the sector;

(d) if so, by when task force would give its report; and

(e) by when they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Task Force has held a series of meetings to deliberate on the issues/problems of the MSME sector with all the stakeholders and is likely to submit its Report shortly.

Collaboration of KVIC with big industrial houses

3349. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state: